



## GILA COUNTY ATTORNEY

*Bradley D. Beauchamp*

February 2, 2016

Arizona House of Representatives  
Senate President David M. Gowan Sr.  
Capital Complex  
1700 W. Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2890

RE: Gila County Deferred Prosecution

Honorable Speaker of the House David M. Gowan Sr:

Pursuant to Statute A.R.S. §11-362 I am sending this report in regards to the Gila County Attorney's Office Deferred Prosecution Program. (See attached statute.)

### Deferred Prosecution

The Gila County Attorney's Office Deferred Prosecution program allows low risk defendants who have been charged with crimes to enter into deferred prosecution agreements whereby they admit their guilt and agree to make amends for their crimes in exchange for having their criminal charges deferred for up to two years and sometimes longer if restitution is involved. If they are able to successfully comply with the terms of their agreement, their criminal charges are dismissed and they avoid having to go through life having a felony conviction. If they are unable to show that they deserve this second chance and fail to comply with the terms of their agreements or if they commit new crimes, their deferred prosecutions are reinstated and they must answer to their original criminal charges in court.

During the time period of January 2015 through December 2015, the Gila County Deferred Prosecution Program had approximately forty one (41) individuals on the Deferred Prosecution Program—twenty (20) at the Payson Office in the northern part of the County and twenty one (21) in Globe, the southern half of the County. Fourteen (14) individuals successfully completed the program during 2015 and thereby never became an expense to the Gila County probation department. Additionally, the Gila County Attorney's Office Deferred Prosecution Program collected and distributed to victims \$9,512.99 in restitution in 2015.

Out of the forty one (41) individuals in the Deferred Program in 2015 twenty seven (27), were new enrollees during the calendar year of 2015. Seventeen (17) individuals entered the Program in Payson and ten (10) entered the Program in the Globe area. A breakdown of the crimes involved is as follows:

**Payson**

Drugs	12
Child Abuse	2
Theft	2
Agg. Assault	1

**Globe**

Drugs	8
Organized Theft	1
Fraud. Schemes	1

Out of the twenty seven (27) defendants that entered the Program in the year 2015; twenty five (25) remain on the Program and two (2) failed.

The Deferred Prosecution Program continues in Gila County to meet its primary objective of ensuring the accused remain accountable for their actions while allowing those with no criminal history, and thus a low probability of recidivism, to find the correct law-abiding path. Additionally, in all victim related offenses victims are ensured restitution and these offenders pose no additional expense to the overtaxed probation system.

If you have any question or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Bradley D. Beauchamp  
Gila County Attorney